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NEWS AND NOTES

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

The sixth annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English will be held in New York, November 30 and December 1 and 2, 1916. The headquarters will be in the Hotel Astor, which offers special rates to those attending the convention.

PROGRAM

All Sessions in the Hotel Astor

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 30

Conference on supervision of English teaching, 2:00 P.M. Leaders: EDWARD HARLAN WEBSTER, MARY B. FONTAINE, J. MILNOR DOREY, and EDWIN L. MILLER.
The Board of Directors will meet at 4:30.

THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 30

Conference of representatives of local associations, 8:00 P.M. Topic: "Essentials, Examinations, and Measurements." Leaders: THEODORE C. MITCHILL, Principal, Jamaica High School, New York City; C. C. CERTAIN, Cass Technical High School, Detroit, Michigan; ALLAN ABBOTT, Columbia University, New York City.
Conference on Defective Speech, 8:00 P.M. Leader, MRS. MAY K. SCRIPTURE.

FRIDAY FORENOON, DECEMBER 1

General Session, 10:00 A.M.

President's Address—EDWIN M. HOPKINS, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.
The Standard of American Speech—FRED N. SCOTT, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
The Curse of Memory—WILLIAM A. NEILSON, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 1

SECTION MEETINGS, 2:00 P.M.

*Elementary-School Section**Chairman:* GEORGE A. MIRICK, Cambridge, Massachusetts

"An Attempt to Standardize the Elementary English Work of a School System"—BERNARD M. SHERIDAN, Superintendent of Schools, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

"Measurements in Elementary English"—HENRY C. PEARSON, Horace Mann School, Columbia University, New York City.

*High-School Section**Chairman:* OSCAR C. GALLAGHER, West Roxbury High School, Boston, Massachusetts

Topic: "Problems of Reorganization in the Report of the Committee of Thirty."

The Separation of the Teaching of Composition and the Teaching of Literature—E. H. KEMPER McCOMB, Principal, Manual Training High School, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Shall We Teach the History of Literature?—ELIZABETH LODOR, William Penn High School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Problem of Essentials in Composition and Grammar—CHARLES S. HARTWELL, New York City.

*College Section**Chairman:* FRED N. SCOTT, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Topic: "Graduate Work in the Teaching of English."

Final Report of the Committee on the Preparation of College Teachers of English, JAMES FLEMING HOSIC, Chairman, Chicago Normal College, Chicago, Illinois.

Courses for College Teachers of English—JOSEPH V. DENNEY, Dean of the College of Arts, Philosophy, and Science, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

A Teacher's Course Leading to the Master's Degree in English—EDWIN GREENLAW, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

The Possibilities of Graduate Work in Rhetoric—CHARLES SEARS BALDWIN, Columbia University, New York City.

*Normal-School Section**Chairman:* WILLIS H. WILCOX, Maryland State Normal School, Baltimore, Maryland

Topic: "Reorganization of the English Course in Normal Schools"

Report of the Committee—WALTER BARNES, Chairman, State Normal School, Fairmont, West Virginia.

Discussion (ten-minute addresses):

The Recommendations on Literature—F. H. GREEN, State Normal School, Westchester, Pennsylvania.

The Recommendations on Grammar, Rhetoric, and Composition—LYDIA JONES, State Normal School, Geneseo, New York.

The Recommendations on Professional Work—JAMES M. GRAINGER, State Normal School, Farmville, Virginia; ROLAND S. KEYSER, Jamaica Training School, Jamaica, New York.

Public-Speaking Section

Chairman: DWIGHT E. WATKINS, Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois

The Place of Oral English in the English Course—CLAUDIA E. CRUMPTON, Girls' Technical Institute, Montevallo, Alabama.

The Practical Value of Training in Public Speaking—DALE CARNAGEY, Young Men's Christian Association, New York City.

The Educational Value of Expressional Training—CHARLES NEWCOMB, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio.

Annual Business Meeting, 4:30 P.M.

Election of members of the Board of Directors, report of the Secretary, and other business.

FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 1

Annual Dinner, 6:00 P.M.—Addresses by PHILANDER P. CLAXTON, United States Commissioner of Education, Washington, District of Columbia; SAMUEL M. CROTHERS, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

SATURDAY FORENOON, DECEMBER 2

Business Meeting, 9:00 A.M.

Reports of Committees and Miscellaneous Business.

SECTION MEETINGS, 10:00 A.M.

Elementary- and Normal-School Sections

Chairman: WILLIS H. WILCOX, Maryland State Normal School, Baltimore, Maryland

"Eliminations in Formal Grammar"—T. E. SPENCER, Principal, Irving High School, St. Louis, Missouri; SARAH E. SIMONS, Supervisor of English in the High School, Washington, District of Columbia.

"The Normal School and Educational Measurement"—FRANK W. BALLOU, Director of the Department of Educational Research, Boston, Massachusetts.

"Kinaesthesia, a New Aid to the Teaching of Speech"—JAMES SINNOTT GREENE, M.D., New York City.

High-School Section

Chairman: OSCAR C. GALLAGHER, West Roxbury High School, Boston, Massachusetts

The Use of the Short Story—CLARA BODMAN HAWKS, Technical High School, Springfield, Massachusetts.

The Test in Composition from the Standpoint of the College, HARRISON R. STEEVES, Columbia University, New York City.

"The Value of Examinations in English"—C. C. CERTAIN, Cass Technical High Schools, Detroit, Michigan.

Building up the Library—ADAH G. GRANDY, Deerfield High School, Highland Park, Illinois.

College Section—Joint Session with the College Conference on English in the Central Atlantic States

Chairman: JAMES W. BRIGHT, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

Topic: "The Place of the Linguistic Phases of English in the College Course."

Anglo-Saxon and Middle English—H. N. McCracken, President, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York.

Historical English Grammar (speaker to be supplied)

Modern English Grammar—JOHN C. FRENCH, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

Topic: "How Far Can the Co-operation of Other Departments Be Secured in Aid of Good Oral and Written English in College?"—PROFESSOR JOHN M. CLAPP, New York City.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 2

Conference on the professional training of high-school teachers of English, 1:30 P.M. Leaders: FRANKLIN T. BAKER, JAMES F. HOSIC, FRED N. SCOTT, HELEN L. COHEN, CALVIN L. LEWIS.

SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE TEACHERS OF
PUBLIC SPEAKING

The National Association of Academic Teachers of Public Speaking will hold its second annual convention at the Hotel Astor, New York City, on December 1 and 2, coincident with the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English.

The program has not yet been completed, but the following speakers and titles will indicate something of its nature: Professor A. T. Robinson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor Mary

Yost, Vassar College; Professor James L. Lardner, Northwestern University; Professor Everett Lee Hunt, Huron College, South Dakota; Professor Charles W. Paul, University of Virginia; Mr. Martin, Director of Speech Defect Work in the New York City schools; Professor Charles H. Woolbert, formerly of the University of Illinois, now doing graduate work in Harvard University.

Among the problems taken up will be special methods of teaching; the theory of argument from the point of view of sociological values; psychological research in public speaking; the "general specialist" versus the "specialized specialist."

Among the important committees to report are the following: Research, J. S. Gaylord, chairman; High-School Contests, A. H. Johnston, chairman; College Entrance Credits, I. L. Winter, chairman; National Education Association, B. C. Van Wye, chairman; Distribution of Briefs, C. D. Hardy, chairman; Interpretation versus Impersonation, S. H. Clark, chairman.

THE ASSOCIATIONS

ALABAMA

The Alabama Association of Teachers of English has been quite active during September. At the invitation of the Director of Institutes, Mr. Speight Dowell, representatives presented the claims of the Association and conducted discussions upon English before teachers at Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery. At Birmingham much was made of "English Day." Dr. Charles Brown, the president, made it possible to have most of the discussions of English on that day. The High-School Section especially enjoyed the program, planned by Miss Bessie Merrill, which bore upon "The Unsolved Problem of Reading." At Assembly Hour, Miss Merrill, by means of a practical demonstration, showed the possibility of correlating English with other subjects, and the advisability of the teachers utilizing yet more widely the lantern and victrola for oral composition purposes. At noon a luncheon was given for forty-three, representing the local members and friends interested in English.

These meetings have resulted in much increase of enthusiasm among the members of the Association and an awakened interest among others that promises to double our membership within the next month. Their success suggests the possibility of establishing strong local centers in the state for conducting English activities. With the present co-operation

of the state officials and the evident interest in English everywhere, it is only a question of how fast the committees can work to bring together all available forces and to utilize them properly for securing excellent teaching of English throughout Alabama.

CLAUDIA E. CRUMPTON

Two sets of prizes, to be known as the Seabury Prizes, are offered by the American School Peace League for the best essays (not over 5,000 words) on one of the following subjects: (1) "What Education Can Do toward the Maintenance of Permanent Peace" (open to Seniors in normal schools); (2) "The Influence of the United States in the Adoption of a Plan for Permanent Peace" (open to Seniors in secondary schools). Three prizes of seventy-five, fifty, and twenty-five dollars will be given for the best essays in both sets.

Further particulars may be obtained by writing to Mrs. Fannie Fern Andrews, 405 Marlborough Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

USEFUL DOCUMENTS

"School Production of Shakspeare's Plays" is the title of an article by Allan Abbott, of Columbia University, which has been reprinted from *Shakespearian Studies*, copyright by Columbia University Press, 1916.—The Department of Education in the University of Minnesota is issuing a series of bulletins for teachers, the latest of which is an excellent handbook for teachers of German by Carl Schlenker, Professor of German in the University.—Two recent bulletins by New York high-school teachers' associations are: (1) *The Junior High School*, which includes an address by Thomas H. Briggs, an article by Charles S. Hartwell, and a bibliography by Joseph Abelson; and (2) *Reports of Committees*, which is made up of the recommendations of the Committees on Composition Standards, on Grammatical Minima, and on Literature. The bulletin may be had of C. R. Gaston, 215 Abingdon Road, New York City, upon the payment of ten cents.—The latest bulletin of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English is entitled *An Experiment in Criticism*. Address, Harry G. Paul, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.—An example of first-rate research in education is University of Illinois *Bulletin No. 16*, "The Content of American History as Taught in the Seventh and Eighth Grades."—*Bulletin No. 20* of the current series of the United States Bureau of Education, is devoted to a list of "Accredited Secondary Schools in the United States."

THE PERIODICALS

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

The October *Atlantic* contains a delightfully intimate and appreciative account of the Hoosier poet, Riley, by his friend, Meredith Nicholson. The real Riley, as is almost always true, appears to have been far less eccentric than usually pictured, though sufficiently individual and whimsical. Mr. Nicholson attempts no detailed criticism of the poet's work, but manages nevertheless to convey a just appreciation of it.

NATURALISM AND FICTION

An evaluation of the work of Arthur Schnitzler is the task set for himself by Philo M. Buck, Jr., in the *Nation* for October 12. The central note he finds to be the familiar "Enjoy this fleeting life while you have it." The central situation in the novels is declared to be the conflict between the passionless life of pure convention and the lawless life of sheer passion. The treatment is not constructive, for the characters do not find a solution to life's problems. The search for "realism" on the part of the writer results in pictures of lawlessness that can hardly be called edifying.

AGAINST AMERICAN LITERATURE

Americans have little to boast of so far as their literature is concerned if one J. R. Dos Pasos, Jr., who writes in the *New Republic* for October 14, is to be counted a judge. Our writers lack the background of an early civilization, he declares, and hence signally fail to understand and express the complex life of their own day. Perhaps the writer's viewpoint may be suggested by citing his reference to Whitman as "our only poet." We need his own assurance that he is really writing of "our" literature—not a literature foreign to him.